

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAB-01

AID-05 EUR-12 IO-10 /095 W
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R 192320Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1278
INFO AMCONSUL BELIZE
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY PANAMA

UNCLAS MEXICO 10214

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PN, MX, BH, GT

SUBJ: PANAMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: PANAMA 7078

1. ON ARRIVING IN MEXICO NOV 18, PANAMA'S ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER, DR. CARLOS OZORES, HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE ANNOUNCED THAT THE PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT IS TO INVITE PRESIDENT LUIS ECHEVERRIA TO A MEETING OF LATING AMERICAN PRESIDENTS WHICH WILL BE HELD IN PANAMA IN JUNE OF 1976.

2. OZORES LIMITED HIS COMMENTS ON THE PANAMA CANAL ISSUE TO EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR GOM SUPPORT FOR THE PANAMANIAN POSITION AND TO NOTING THAT IT IS HIS GOVERNMENT'S VIEW THAT THE 8 POINTS OF THE KISSINGER-TACK AGREEMENT "ARE A BENCHMARK, COMPRISING THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS WHICH SHOULD BE INCORPORATED INTO THE NEW TREATY." OZORES PROMISED TO DISCUSS THE CANAL NEGOTIATIONS IN ANOTHER PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER HE MEETS WITH ECHEVERRIA NOV 19.

3. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ON BELIZE, OZORES SAID THAT
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HIS GOVERNMENT IS OPPOSED TO THE CONTINUATION OF THIS

"COLONIAL SITUATION" AND BELIEVES THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE UK AND GUATEMALA SHOULD CONTINUE IN AN EFFORT TO FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM. SOME PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT OZORES EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE MEXICAN POSITION VIS-A-VIS BELIZE WHILE OTHERS QUOTE HIM AS SAYING MEXICAN SUPPORT FOR A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM IS "SIGNIFICANT".

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